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PATENT 8014-1091

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hiroshi MORIKAWA et al

Conf.

Application No. NEW NATIONAL PHASE

Group

Filed January 26, 2006

Examiner

CASE WITH PARTITION MEMBER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 26, 2006

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

An $\mbox{{\sc Appendix}}$ is attached following the signature page of this paper.